

Ross has high hopes for Nesbitt, Ritzman

By JOHN CUMMINGS
Staff correspondent

The mission is clear in the Fremont Ross High School cross country camp: return Tim Nesbitt back to state and get Amy Ritzman there period.

The rest of the season is a building block for the future, according to Ross coach John Elder.

Nesbitt placed 41st in the state

meet a year ago. Richmond just missed qualifying.

"(Nesbitt) knows that he can do it," Elder said. "We have to get him back there and see what he can do.

"Amy has been so close the last couple years, maybe we can get her over the hump this year."

Steve Jay, David Boda and Mark Sheidler, the Little Giants'

five through seven men in 1989, will be looked to run second through fourth this year.

"It is unknown what it is going to be like for us this year," Elder said. "Hopefully, we can make it a little fun so we can build on it.

"That way we can change our philosophy a little bit in a couple

See ROSS, B-2

Ross

Continued From B-1

of years."

Elder considers the girls' team to be a mirror image of the boys' squad.

"They are the same in the fact that we want to gather experience for the future," Elder said. "It is kind of an unknown quality in what we are dealing with."

Leah Lomax and freshman Heather Mears look to be the supporting cast for Ritzman. Senior Bridget Boda, depending on

her recovery from an injury, could also help.

"I don't think they know how fast they can run three miles," Elder said. "Then again, I don't know how fast they can run three miles.

"As far as the team goes, we're just going to wait and see what happens."

Clyde loses as Boos starts fast; Ross falls

News-Messenger reports

Alan Boos of Tiffin Columbian, the defending Class AAA state cross country champion, took first in a boys meet against Clyde, Fostoria and Bellevue at Hedges-Boyer Park in Tiffin.

Boos ran a 16:50 as Columbian took seven of the first eight places.

The Tornadoes finished with 18 points to 51 for Fostoria, 85 for Bellevue and 86 for Clyde.

Clyde's Andy Madell finished 12th in 18:56.

The Columbian girls took three of the first five places, including Monica Ferguson's first-place finish in 20:45.

Columbian tallied 25 points to 37 for Bellevue, 75 for Fostoria and 82 for Clyde.

Jodi Binder was the top Clyde finisher, taking 14th in 25:20.

In other cross country action, Bowling Green downed both the Ross girls and boys teams; La-

Cross Country

kota's girls topped Gibsonburg and the Raider boys finished in front of the Golden Bears and a limited team from Northwood; and Genoa's boys defeated Elmwood 15-48, while the Cornets lost to Elmwood and Eastwood, 18-37 and 20-37, in a girls event.

Tim Nesbitt of Ross won the boys meet but the Little Giants lost to the Bobcats 30-36. Nesbitt won in 17:26.

Amy Ritzman of Ross also took individual honors in 20:28 but the girls fell 24-38.

Lakota's girls took the top seven places, led by Julie Harrison in 23:13, as they finished with 15 points to Gibsonburg's 50.

Bobbi Shull was Gibsonburg's top finisher, placing eighth in 26:10.

The Raider boys earned 19 points to 42 for Gibsonburg.

Chad Brockschmidt won the race in 18:54, four seconds better than Northwood's Jason Roach. Gibsonburg's Robert Jahna was third in 19:07.

At Elmwood, Bill Werner won the boys race in 17:26 as Genoa took six of the top seven places.

Jenny Guthrie was the top finisher for the Genoa girls, placing seventh in 25:44.

Tribe

Continued from B-1

and eighth innings. Greenwell ended the seventh by hitting into a double play, and Jody Reed did the same thing in the eighth.

The failures appeared to be fatal when Brook Jacoby put the Indians ahead 4-3 with a home run off Dennis Lamp in the bottom of the eighth.

Sandusky Perkins eases past Ross

News-Messenger reports

Boys and girls cross country teams from Sandusky Perkins ran to easy victories over Fremont Ross Tuesday at Wolf Creek State Park.

The Pirates defeated the Little Giants 18-51 and 20-52 in the boys and girls events, respectively.

In other cross country action, Sandusky's boys and Oak Harbor's girls won a quadrangular meet with Clyde and Huron at Community Park in Clyde; Gibsonburg lost twice in a girls' double dual with Lake and Eastwood while the Golden Bears dropped a boys' decision to the Flyers at White Star Park; and Port Clinton's boys and girls were victorious over Oregon Clay at Pearson Park in Toledo.

In a double-dual at Veteran's Park in Genoa, Woodmore's girls beat Lakota (22-33) and Genoa (16-47), while Lakota defeated Genoa 17-46; and Lakota downed Woodmore 17-38, while Genoa beat both Lakota (15-47) and Woodmore (15-50).

In Fostoria, Old Fort individuals Howard Webb and Chris Havens each placed third in the boys and girls races at the Meadowlark Invitational. Stockaders Becky Magers and Kevin Lykens were fifth and eighth in the girls and boys races.

"It was a case of a young, inexperienced team from Ross running a great team from Perkins," Ross coach John Elder said.

The Perkins boys are the defending Division II state champs.

"They lost only two runners from that team," Elder said. "We performed OK, but we need to understand how to run hard and force the other team to earn its victory."

Tim Nesbitt of Ross finished third behind the Pirates Matt Smith and Mark Bennett, who each ran 16:56. Nesbitt was supported in the top 10 by Steve Jay and David Boda, who finished eighth and 10th.

Amy Ritzman won the girls race in 21:03, but no other Ross runner finished in the top 10.

"The girls ran under the same

Cross Country

circumstances," Elder said. "(Perkins') girls aren't as good as the boys, but they're still very strong and deep."

Clyde quadrangular

Oak Harbor, with 27 points, finished seven better than Clyde while Sandusky was a distant third with 67 points.

Huron did not field a full team, although the Tigers Carrie Holden won the race in 22:35.

Gina Whiting, Betsy Verb and Michelle Gladieux finished second, fourth and fifth for the Rockets. Clyde's Jody Binder placed third.

Sandusky edged the Oak Harbor boys 45-47 behind Todd Lawson's first-place finish.

Andy Madell was Clyde's top finisher, placing third. Oak Harbor's Scott Schmidt and Jed Wetz finished fourth and fifth.

Gibsonburg-Eastwood-Lake

Matt LaPlante won the boys race in 17:32 as Lake took seven of 10 places. Gibsonburg's Bob Jahna finished second in 17:51.

In the girls' event, Lake defeated Gibsonburg (19-39) and Eastwood (21-37), while Eastwood topped Gibsonburg (24-31).

Eastwood's Marcy Flegle's winning time of 22:02 was 29 seconds better than the time of Lake's Megan Patrilla.

Bobbi Shull was Gibsonburg's top finisher, placing fourth.

Port Clinton-Clay

Tony Dracka's finish time broke a tie and gave the Port Clinton boys a victory.

The Redskins and Eagles each compiled 28 points, but Dracka finished with a better time than Clay's sixth man.

Clay's Jeff Kohne won the meet in 17:44.

Theresa Darr took second for Port Clinton followed by teammates Heather Britt (third) and Mary Jadwisiak (fourth) as the Redskins won 24-31.

Genoa-Woodmore-Lakota

Genoa's Bill Werner in 16:17 and Woodmore's Jenny Helmeci in 22:03 placed first individually.

Victories by Nesbitt, Ritzman not enough for Little Giants

News-Messenger reports

Tim Nesbitt and Amy Ritzman placed first for Fremont Ross, but the Ross boys and girls cross country teams were both defeated by Fostoria Tuesday.

Fostoria edged the Little Giants 27-28 in the girls meet despite a 1-2 finish by Ritzman and

Cross Country

Ross's Leah Lomax, while Nesbitt was joined in the top 10 only by teammate Steve Jay.

Nesbitt's and Ritzman's winning times were 17:28 and 21:30, respectively.

In other cross country action reported, Sandusky Perkins defeated the Clyde boys and girls teams; Genoa's boys beat Gibsonburg and Otsego while Otsego topped Gibsonburg 19-39 and Otsego's girls defeated Genoa 24-31; Lakota's boys beat Elmwood 16-44, while the Raider girls

topped the Royals 23-38; Woodmore got two victories over Eastwood, 24-35 in the boys event and 21-39 in the girls meet; and Oak Harbor's boys and the girls of Sandusky St. Mary's Central Catholic were victorious in a tri-meet which also included Port Clinton.

Clyde-Perkins

Perkins' boys took the top three places and six of the first seven for a 19-44 victory at Osborne Park.

Andy Madell in fourth place was Clyde's top finisher, 33 sec-

See RUN, B-3

Run

Continued From B-1

onds off Matt Smith's winning time of 17:07.

The Pirates won the girls meet 17-41 behind Shannon Dubbert's first-place finish.

Jodi Binder and Rochelle Mar-

tin finished fifth and sixth for the Fliers.

"I told the girls to go for places and not go for times," Clyde coach Holly Rogers said. "I was glad to get those places."

Gibsonburg double-dual

Genoa, led by Bill Werner's victory, swept the first five places en route to 15-45 and 15-48 victories over Otsego and Gib-

sonburg.

Gibsonburg was paced by Bob Jahna's seventh-place finish.

Amy Tester of Genoa won the girls event at White Star Park.

Gibsonburg, which did not field a full girls team, was led by Amber Picciuto in eighth place.

Lakota-Elmwood

Chad Brockschmidt led the way in 18:48 as Lakota's boys swept the top four places at Nature Trails Golf Course.

Lakota offset Brenda Young's victory in the girls race by placing seven runners in the top 10.

Woodmore-Eastwood

Woodmore placed seven runners in the top 10 of the boys race to offset Matt Dosdort's victory for Eastwood.

Stacy Heins won the girls race in 21:11 for the Wildcats.

Port Clinton tri-meet

Oak Harbor won a very com-

petitive boys meet with 36 points to 40 for St. Mary's and 45 for Port Clinton.

Matt Norgard led the Rockets with a third-place finish. Norgard finished 13 seconds off the winning time of 17:08 by St. Mary's Jason Mindera.

Jason McCann of Port Clinton finished in 17:14.

St. Mary's girls won easily, finishing with 17 points to 59 for Oak Harbor and 60 for PC.

Emmy Fischer (20:13), Elly Fischer and Kristi Kramer took the top three places, and Port Clinton's Theresa Larr slipped in for fourth.

Betsy Verb was Oak Harbor's top finisher, placing seventh.

For The Record

TENNIS CORRECTION: Ross third singles player Gwen Gaydos' name was spelled incorrectly in The News-Messenger Monday. Gaydos, a senior in her first year of tennis at Ross, finished fifth in the Sandusky Invitational Tournament.

PERFECT 10 WINNER: Buck Ohl, 43 E. Siesta Dr., Tiffin,

Bellone®

Nesbitt narrowly misses Galion title

News-Messenger reports

GALION — Shawn Armstrong of Gahanna Lincoln edged Tim Nesbitt of Fremont Ross by a second for the individual title at the Galion Invitational Saturday. Armstrong won in 16 minutes, 25 seconds.

Amy Ritzman placed third for the Ross girls in a time of 19:55. Latoya Williams and Holly Robinson of Mansfield placed first and second in 19:08 and 19:54, respectively.

"It was the best day for running that we have had," Ross coach John Elder said. "Everyone improved their times.

"We now need to concentrate on a better finish."

Gahanna Lincoln won the boys title with 39 points followed by River Valley (51), Mansfield Senior (56), Port Clinton (120), Ross (124), Lexington (143) and Mansfield Madison (156).

Tony Tervino was Port Clinton's top finisher, placing 15th in 17:24.

Mansfield Senior won the girls title with 38 points followed by Gahanna Lincoln (44), Galion (73), Port Clinton (99), Shelby (119) and Ross (131).

Theresa Darr was clocked in at 21:30, good for ninth place, to lead Port Clinton.

Clyde sweeps St. Joe runners; Ross girls win first

News-Messenger reports

Clyde swept both the boys and girls events in a high school cross country meet with Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic at Clyde Community Park Tuesday.

Clyde's boys defeated St. Joe 23-38, while the Fliers topped the Crimson Streaks 16-43 in the girls' event.

St. Joe's Tim Arndt won the boys' race in 17:42; Clyde's Andy Madell was three seconds back.

Jodi Binder, with a first-place time of 22:21, Rochelle Martin, Sarin Wiedle and Vickie Peters

Cross Country

swept the top four places for the Clyde girls before St. Joe's Monica Rodriguez slipped in for fifth.

In other cross country action reported, the Fremont Ross girls defeated Oregon Clay 25-31, while the Little Giants finished third in a boys meet with Clay and Huron at White Star Park; at Mary Jane Thurston Park in Grand Rapids, Ohio, Lakota's boys tied Otsego 28-28 and beat Eastwood 19-44, while Lakota's

girls beat Eastwood 20-40 and topped Otsego 20-28; Woodmore defeated Gibsonburg 23-31 and Elmwood beat Woodmore (22-35) and Gibsonburg (22-38) in a boys' event at Bloomsdale as Woodmore beat Gibsonburg (16-47) and Elmwood (22-38) while Elmwood topped Gibsonburg (18-39) in a girls' event; and Sandusky Perkins topped Oak Harbor and Edison in a boys and girls meet at Oak Harbor High School.

Ross triangular

Amy Ritzman won the girls' race in 20:11, eight seconds bet-

ter than Clay's Kim Puls, as the Little Giants won their first dual meet of the season.

Tim Nesbitt won the boys' race in 16:54, four seconds in front of Clay's Jeff Kohne, but the Eagles compiled 29 points to 41 for Huron and 52 for Ross.

Otsego tri-meet

Paul Barton in second and Julie Harrison in third were the top finishers for the Lakota boys and girls, respectively.

Elmwood tri-meet

Gibsonburg's Bob Jahna won the boys' race in 17:22, while Woodmore's Charlie Gerwin fin-

ished third.

Stacy Heins was victorious for the Woodmore girls in 19:45, while Bobbi Shull placed seventh for Gibsonburg.

Oak Harbor tri-meet

Matt Norgard's third-place finish for Oak Harbor broke up a top-five sweep for Perkins, but the Pirates' 18 points were more than enough to hold off the Rockets with 41 and Edison with 92.

In the girls' event, Perkins tallied 20 points to 39 for Edison and 75 for Oak Harbor.

Betsy Verb was the Rockets' top finisher, placing ninth.

Ross duo wins Maumee Invitational

News-Messenger reports

Tim Nesbitt and Amy Ritzman of Fremont Ross won individual titles at the Maumee Invitational Saturday.

Toledo Whitmer won the girls title and Toledo St. Francis was first in the boys Division I races. There were seven teams in the girls race and 11 in the boys competition.

Clyde's boys were fifth in Division II, also at Maumee.

In other meets, boys teams from Oak Harbor and Genoa finished first at the Lake Invitational and Malone College Invitational, respectively.

Oak Harbor won the Lake meet with 64 points, followed by Otsego (67) and Clay (86). Margaretta was fourth with 98

Cross country



RITZMAN



NESBITT

points. Cardinal Stritch won the girls race with 50 points, while Woodmore was second with 59, Margaretta was third with 72 and Oak Harbor was fourth with 107.

Genoa's boys team, led by Bill Werner, recorded 47 points to win the Division III title at Malone College. The Comets beat 22 other teams.

Maumee Invitational

"Tim and Amy ran great races," Ross coach John Elder said. "Tim has wanted both he and Amy to win on the same day (at a big meet)."

"This may be a first in Ross cross country history," Elder said about the sweep for the Ross winners.

Nesbitt ran the five kilometers (3.1 miles) in 16 minutes and 18 seconds, but the next best finish for the Ross boys was David Boda's 40th in 18:26.

See COUNTRY, B-5

Country

Continued From B-1

Steve Jay was the next Ross runner, finishing 42nd in 18:29 while Mark Sheidler was 43rd.

Jeff Pasch finished 53rd, Daved Alejandro 55th and Tim Leeth 69th.

St. Francis had 45 points, with Toledo Rogers next at 93. Toledo Waite took third with 96 and Toledo Start had 103. Bedford,

Mich., rounded out the top five with 121.

Whitmer had 164 for sixth and Ross 179 for seventh. Anthony Wayne, Springfield, Toledo Bowsher and Toledo Woodward rounded out the field.

Ritzman finished in 19:49 as the Ross girls tied Toledo Bowsher for third with 100 points.

Whitmer had 27 to claim the top spot with Sylvania Southview next with 75. Bedford, Toledo Rogers and Toledo Woodward rounded out the finishes.

Leah Lomax of Ross was 12th in 22:42 and Heather Mears finished 18th in 23:28. Erica McDonald was 34th, Andrea Kleui 35th and Jeannette Wright 42nd the Little Giants.

"As a team, everyone ran very well," Elder said. "Many of the kids have colds and didn't feel well, but still many of them were close to their season and personal bests."

For the Clyde boys, who fin-

ished with 115 points, Jeremy Dennis finished sixth in 16:28, Andy Madell 17th in 17:56, Chad Archer 24th in 18:13, Rudy Sepeda 33rd in 18:34 and Jason Meade took 35th in 18:41.

For the Oak Harbor boys, senior Matt Norgard was third overall in 17:44, Jed Wetzel 10th in 18:11, Scott Schmidt 13th in 18:18, Brandon West 14th in 18:20

and Jason Wood 24th in 18:45. Woodmore sophomore Charlie Gerwin was 21st in 19:05.

For the Woodmore girls, freshman Stacy Heins was second overall in 20:43, Jenny Helmecki was fourth in 21:47, Laurie Crispin 14th in 22:39, Suzie Harman took 16th in 22:47 and Traci Sandwisch 23rd in 23:31.

The Oak Harbor girls were led by Betsy Verb, who took ninth in

22:11. The Rockets' Gina Whiting was 18th in 22:51, Michelle Gladieux was 22nd in 23:20, Becky Adams was 28th in 23:57 and Beth Hansen was 30th in 24:13.

Malone Invitational
Werner was the top finisher, crossing the tape in 17:14. Teammate Chris Lau was fourth in 17:55, Jon Scheffer ninth in 18:11, John Elmers 14th in 18:29 and Pat Jones 19th in 18:40.

Baker throws five TDs in Smith Automotive win

News-Messenger reports

Ted Baker threw five touchdown passes Sunday to lead Smith Automotive to a 39-14 Flag Football victory over Bank Bar.

In one other game reported Sunday, Fran's Barber Shop beat M.D. 29-6.

Smith Auto-Bank Bar

Baker hit Rod Jarrett for touchdown passes of 35 and 75 yards, Roger Taroli for 40 yards, Mark Weaver for 13 yards and

ners, 1-2.

Kromer completed scoring passes of 10, 5 and 5 yards to Bub Smith and 18 yards to Willie Gentry. Kromer also kicked two extra points and Gentry ran for a two-point conversion. Dwight Taylor had an interception for Fran's.

Mike Dukeshire threw a touchdown pass in the third quarter for M.D.



SAVE ALL THIS WEEK
AT RITE AID

SJCC runs past Bears

News-Messenger reports

Tim Arndt of Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic and Gibsonburg's Bobbi Shull were individual winners as the Crimson Streaks defeated the Golden Bears in both a boys and girls cross country meet Tuesday.

St. Joe won the boys' event

Cross Country

23-34 and took the girls' event 24-31 at White Star Park.

In other cross country action reported, Findlay defeated the boys from Fremont Ross 23-32 and the Trojans topped the Little Giants 26-31 in a girls' event at Wolf Creek Park; Port Clinton's boys and Clyde's girls won tri-meet events with Edison at East Harbor State Park; and Woodmore's boys beat Danbury Lakeside 19-56 at Wells Park in Elmore.

Arndt finished first in 16:32 followed by teammate Scott

See RUNS, B-3

Run

Continued From B-1

Reineck and Gibsonburg's Bob Jahna and Bob Clark.

Shull's 23:32 was 23 seconds better than St. Joe's Monica Rodriguez.

Ross-Findlay

Tim Nesbitt in 17:20 and Amy Ritzman in 21:07 took first place for Ross.

Steve Jay was sixth in the boys race and Leah Lomax fourth in the girls race for Ross.

Port Clinton tri-meet

Port Clinton grabbed four of

the top six places, offsetting the individual victory by Clyde's Andy Madell, who finished in 17:09, five seconds in front of PC's Tony Trevino.

The Redskins had 24 points to 41 for the Fliers and 88 for the Chargers.

Clyde won the girls' event by placing girls in positions two through five behind Port Clinton's Jen Booher, who finished in 22:28, two seconds in front of Clyde's Rochelle Martin.

The Fliers finished with 23 points to 52 for Edison and 68 for Port Clinton.

Woodmore-Danbury 56

Charlie Gerwin won the race for Woodmore in 19:38.

In the Division I event, the Fremont Ross girls placed 14th and the Ross boys finished 15th.

Sylvania Southview took both the team and individual championships in the boys and girls events.

Southview's Heidi Honner won the girls' race in 19:17, 30 seconds of third-place finisher Amy Ritzman of Ross, as the Cougars finished with 61 points to 76 for Toledo Whitmer and 312 for the Little Giants.

"Amy (Ritzman) let the leaders (Honner and Nancy Keeler of Northview) run away," Ross coach John Elder said. "She needs to run with the leaders."

Matt Geha of Southview led his team to the boys' title, 38 points to 89 for Whitmer, placing first in 15:52.

Tim Nesbitt of Ross was seventh in 16:35, but the Little Giants amassed 384 points.

"We did not run well as a team," Elder said.

In other cross country action, Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic ran in the Western Reserve Invitational.

St. Joe finished sixth in a the boys' event with 146 points, and the St. Joe girls placed eighth with 194.

Firelands and Edison, with 46 points in the boys and girls' events respectively, were team champions.

The St. Joe boys were led by Tim Arndt's runner-up finish in 16:44, and Scott Reineck's fourth-place finish in 17:03.

Western Reserve's Chris Nickoli won the boys' race in 16:38.

St. Joe's Chrissy Branda and Monica Rodriguez were 38th and 39th in 23:41 and 23:45, respectively, while Jenny Engle of Firelands won the girls' race in 21:00.

Maumee runners top Ross; Nesbitt, Ritzman rest

News-Messenger reports

Fremont Ross cross country coach John Elder held the Little Giants' top runners, Tim Nesbitt and Amy Ritzman, out of Thursday's dual meet with Maumee and the Panthers took advantage for a pair of victories.

Maumee defeated the Ross boys 16-50 and won the girls' event 18-51 at Wolf Creek Park.

"We want to freshen (Nesbitt's and Ritzman's) legs for upcoming meets," Elder said.

The upcoming meets include Saturday's Purple Invitational, which Ross will host at Wolf Creek. Both Nesbitt and Ritzman

Cross Country

should contend for first-place in that meet, according to Elder.

John Heagy of Maumee won the boys' race in 18:37 as the Panthers took the top four places. Mark Sheidler placed fifth for Ross in 18:51, and Steve Jay was ninth in 19:05.

Maumee's Angie DuGar and Lina Leyer placed first and second in the girls' race in 22:10 and 22:11, respectively.

Heather Mears placed third for Ross in 22:32, but was the only Little Giants in the top 10.

In other cross country action, Sandusky St. Mary's Central Catholic won both the boys and girls events in a meet with Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic, Seneca East and Danbury; and Gibsonburg's boys topped Old Fort 27-32 at White Star Park.

St. Mary's quadrangular

St. Joe's Tim Arndt won the boys' race in 16:45, and teammate Scott Reineck was fourth in 17:39.

St. Mary's compiled 33 points to 40 for Seneca East, 58 for St. Joe and 114 for Danbury.

The St. Mary's girls' team

dominated Seneca East and St. Joe. The Panthers swept the top five places, finishing with 15 points to 51 for Seneca East and 100 for St. Joe.

Emmy Fischer, Elly Fischer and Kristi Kramer of St. Mary's finished first through third in times of 21:22, 21:23 and 21:24, respectively.

St. Joe was led by Crissy Branda (16th in 24:18) and Heather Luc (18th in 24:25).

Gibsonburg-Old Fort

Old Fort's Howard Webb won the race easily in 17:20, while Gibsonburg's Bob Jahna took second in 18:07.

SJCC runs past Bears

News-Messenger reports

Tim Arndt of Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic and Gibsonburg's Bobbi Shull were individual winners as the Crimson Streaks defeated the Golden Bears in both a boys and girls cross country meet Tuesday.

St. Joe won the boys' event

Cross Country

23-34 and took the girls' event 24-31 at White Star Park.

In other cross country action reported, Findlay defeated the boys from Fremont Ross 23-32 and the Trojans topped the Little Giants 26-31 in a girls' event at Wolf Creek Park; Port Clinton's boys and Clyde's girls won tri-meet events with Edison at East Harbor State Park; and Woodmore's boys beat Danbury Lakeside 19-56 at Wells Park in Elmore.

Arndt finished first in 16:32 followed by teammate Scott

See RUNS, B-3

Run

Continued From B-1

Reineck and Gibsonburg's Bob Jahna and Bob Clark.

Shull's 23:32 was 23 seconds better than St. Joe's Monica Rodriguez.

Ross-Findlay

Tim Nesbitt in 17:20 and Amy Ritzman in 21:07 took first place for Ross.

Steve Jay was sixth in the boys race and Leah Lomax fourth in the girls race for Ross.

Port Clinton tri-meet

Port Clinton grabbed four of

the top six places, offsetting the individual victory by Clyde's Andy Madell, who finished in 17:09, five seconds in front of PC's Tony Trevino.

The Redskins had 24 points to 41 for the Fliers and 88 for the Chargers.

Clyde won the girls' event by placing girls in positions two through five behind Port Clinton's Jen Booher, who finished in 22:28, two seconds in front of Clyde's Rochelle Martin.

The Fliers finished with 23 points to 52 for Edison and 68 for Port Clinton.

Woodmore-Danbury 56

Charlie Gerwin won the race for Woodmore in 19:38.

In the Division I event, the Fremont Ross girls placed 14th and the Ross boys finished 15th.

Sylvania Southview took both the team and individual championships in the boys and girls events.

Southview's Heidi Honner won the girls' race in 19:17, 30 seconds of third-place finisher Amy Ritzman of Ross, as the Cougars finished with 61 points to 76 for Toledo Whitmer and 312 for the Little Giants.

"Amy (Ritzman) let the leaders (Honner and Nancy Keeler of Northview) run away," Ross coach John Elder said. "She needs to run with the leaders."

Matt Geha of Southview led his team to the boys' title, 38 points to 89 for Whitmer, placing first in 15:52.

Tim Nesbitt of Ross was seventh in 16:35, but the Little Giants amassed 384 points.

"We did not run well as a team," Elder said.

In other cross country action, Fremont St. Joseph Central Catholic ran in the Western Reserve Invitational.

St. Joe finished sixth in a the boys' event with 146 points, and the St. Joe girls placed eighth with 194.

Firelands and Edison, with 46 points in the boys and girls' events respectively, were team champions.

The St. Joe boys were led by Tim Arndt's runner-up finish in 16:44, and Scott Reineck's fourth-place finish in 17:03.

Western Reserve's Chris Nickoli won the boys' race in 16:38.

St. Joe's Chrissy Branda and Monica Rodriguez were 38th and 39th in 23:41 and 23:45, respectively, while Jenny Engle of Firelands won the girls' race in 21:00.

Ross duo duplicates first-place finishes

Ritzman, Nesbitt win invitational

By TIM HARMON
Staff writer

Tim Nesbitt and Amy Ritzman of Fremont Ross placed first in invitational cross country events on the same day for the second time this season Saturday.

Ritzman and Nesbitt, who both took first place in the Maumee Invitational Sept. 22, captured the top spots at the Purple Invitational at Wolf Creek Park.

"(Nesbitt) talks about Amy and him winning on the same day," Ross coach John Elder said. "So when Amy wins, he puts pressure on himself."

Nesbitt won the boys' race in 16:47 after Ritzman won the girls' race in 20:52.

"I thought it was going to be close," Nesbitt said. "I wanted to win on the kick."

"I was going to run with the kid (Mark Silva) from (Toledo) Waite, but I took off hard, got the lead and didn't have to worry about the kick."

Nesbitt was jostled around at the start of the race, ran behind Reynoldsburg's Pat Crumley for the first mile and finished 25 seconds in front of Silva.

"I don't know what they were trying to do (at the start)," Nesbitt said. "They were knocking me from side to side."

"I wanted to stay cool... get into position before we went into the woods."

Nesbitt said his familiarity with the Wolf Creek Park course gave him the edge over Silva.

Ritzman didn't need an edge, finishing more than a minute in front of Reynoldsburg's Joni

Quellhorst despite a disappointing time of 20:52.

"I wanted to take it out hard and see if I could maintain my pace," said Ritzman, who led from the start. "When I'm out in front by myself, I have a hard time keeping my pace."

"Plus battling the wind slowed me down."

Waite's boys and Maumee's girls won team championships, the first invitational team titles for each squad this season.

Maumee edged Keystone 35-37 followed by Reynoldsburg and Waite with 66 and 90 points, respectively. Four girls finished the race for Ross and Vermilion.

"We just ran in a pack," Maumee coach Bob Tomasic said. "The key was running tight."

Angie DuGai and Sarah Sanzenbacher placed fourth and fifth, respectively, for the Panthers in 22:52 and 22:57.

Heather Mears of Ross placed 10th in 23:28.

Waite won with 32 points followed by Reynoldsburg (50), Maumee (62), Ross (81), Keystone (118) and Vermilion (172) in the boys race.

"Our teamwork is the important thing that won it for us," Waite coach Fren Clement said. "We had good team workouts, and that was the big thing coming into Saturday."

Silva's second-place finish was backed up by Pat Soto (fourth) and Milo Ramirez (seventh) and Jesse Perez (eighth).

David Boda placed 16th in 19:14 for Ross, while Mark

Woodmore's Helmecci leads Wildcats to 2nd-place finish

News-Messenger reports

FOSTORIA — Just a few hours after she was named homecoming queen, Woodmore senior Jenny Helmecci went out and took first place in the Black division Saturday at the eight-team Fostoria Invitational.

Helmecci, who finished in 20:47, helped the Wildcats to a second-place finish behind Liberty Benton in the girls' team standings. Liberty Benton had 28 points, followed by Woodmore (45), St. Wendelin (56), Bettsville (123) and New Riegel (142). Gibsonburg was seventh, with 148 points.

Also finishing in the top 25 for the Wildcats were Stacy Heins (third), Suzie Harraman (eighth), Traci Sandwisch (23rd) and Chelle Andrews (25th).

In the girls' Red division, Margaretta won the team title with 51 points, 12 better than runner-up Cardinal Stritch. Lakota was third with 102 points, Clyde took fifth with 145, Port Clinton was sixth with 157 and Oak Harbor was seventh with 162.

Andrea Lindsley led Margaretta, finishing second in 20:31. Theresa Darr of Port Clinton was 20th in 22:35, while Oak Harbor got a ninth-place finish from Betsy Verb (21:49). Jodi Binder was 14th for Clyde in 22:00.

In the boys' Red division, Fostoria was the team champ with 77 points, while Clyde and Port Clinton each registered 107 points to tie for third place. Oak Harbor took fifth with 112 points, Margaretta was sixth with 120 and Lakota finished 10th with 262.

Port Clinton's Tony Trevino was sixth in 17:13, Oak Harbor's Matt Norgard took 10th in 17:49 and Clyde's Andy Madell was seventh in 17:46.

In the Black division, Toledo Christian had 82 points to win the title. Woodmore was sixth with 145 points, Old Fort finished eighth, Gibsonburg was ninth and Danbury finished 14th.

Woodmore's Charlie Gerwin took 15th place with a time of 19:04.

Sheidler was 19th in 19:45 and Steve Jay 20th in 19:51. Jimmy Parker of Ross won the

boys' open race in 18:46, and Maumee's Leissa Swartz won the girls' open race in 24:56.